

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

DO NOT ENTER Please AMEND claims 1, 10, 15, and 18 in accordance with the following:

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1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An optical pickup apparatus comprising:
 - a first light source to generate a first light beam;
 - a second light source to generate a second light beam whose optical axis is parallel to the optical axis of the first light beam, the second light source being disposed optically farther from a recording medium than the first light source;
 - a photodetector to receive the first light beam and the second light beam which are emitted from the first and second light sources, respectively, and which are reflected from the recording medium and performing photoelectric conversion;
 - an objective lens to focus the first light beam and second light beam on the recording medium, the objective lens being disposed on an optical path between the first and second light sources and the recording medium; and
 - a beam splitter disposed on an optical path between the objective lens and the photodetector, the beam splitter having a first surface to reflect the first light beam and the second light beam toward the objective lens and simultaneously transmitting the first light beam and the second light beam, and a second surface on which a hologram is formed to compensate for a deviation between optical axes of the first and second light beams transmitted through the first surface,
- wherein the hologram is formed to diffract the first light beam into a relatively more +1-order diffracted light beam and relatively less residual light, and to diffract the second light beam into a relatively more zero-order diffracted light beam and relatively less residual light, and
- wherein the optical axis of the first light beam is parallel to the optical axis of the second light beam before the first and second light beams are reflected by the beam splitter and after the first and second light beams are reflected by the beam splitter.